



BOROUGH
OF
PONTFRAC



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

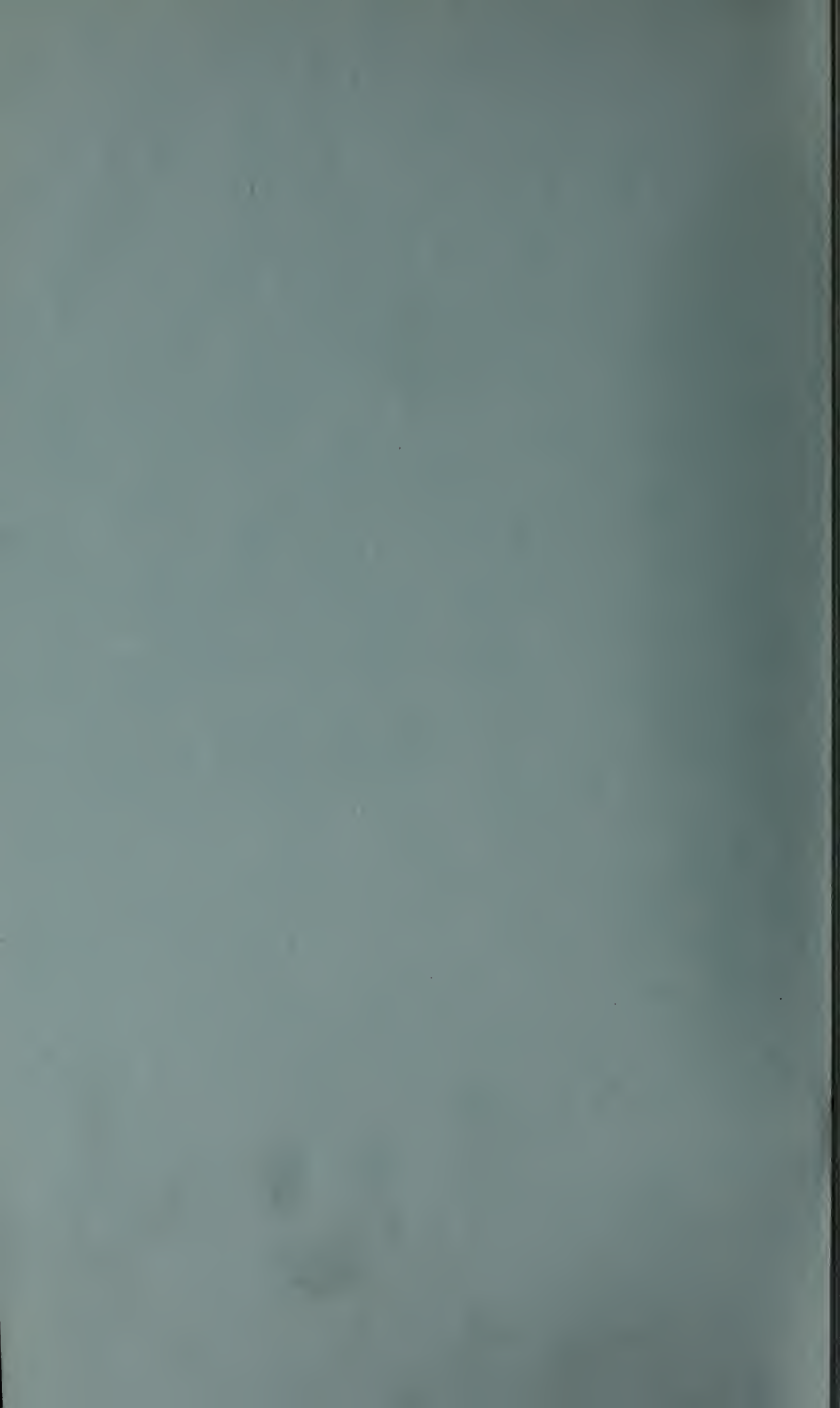
Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

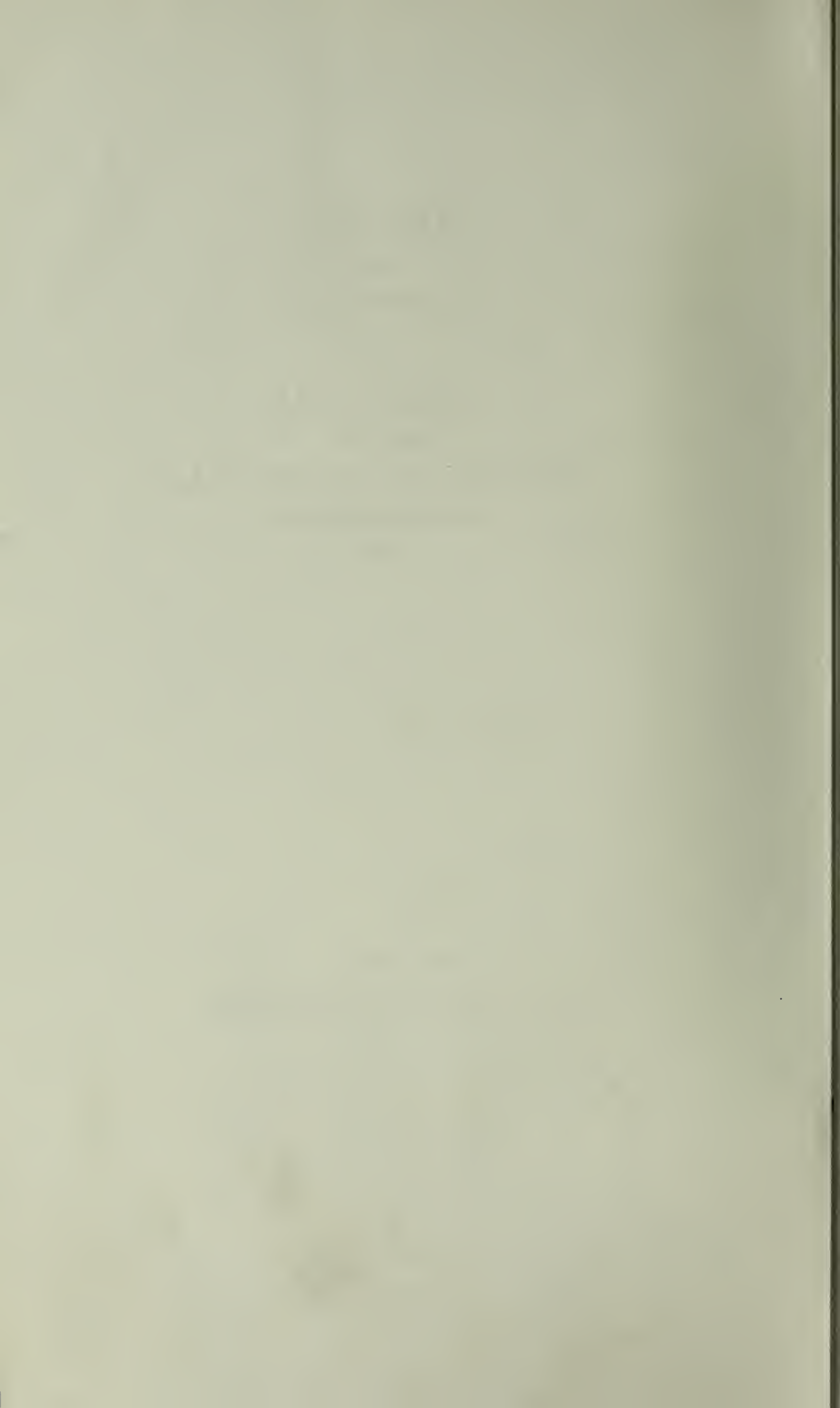
1965



B O R O U G H
O F
P O N T E F R A C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E Y E A R
1965.

B Y
J. F. FRASER.
M. B., B. S., D. P. H., D. Obst., R. C. O. G.



Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Pontefract.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration,
a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Borough during the
year 1965.

✓ The Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector dealing with
the Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough, Housing and the Inspection
and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services
administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

John F. Fraser.

Medical Officer of Health.

P O N T E F R A C T B O R O U G H .

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1965.

Chairman: Ald. B. Wood.

Deputy Chairman: Cr. G.E. Poppleton.

Ald. J. Blackburn O.B.E.

Cr. R. Cunningham.

Cr. A.F. Curry.

Ald.C. Dyer.

Cr. F.A.A. Gardiner.

Cr. G. Lofthouse.

Cr. Mrs. V. Pritchard.

Cr. D. Robinson.

Cr. P. Westerman.

Cr. I. Williams.

PART ONE.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Borough : 4,865 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of civilian population : 28,830

Number of inhabited Houses (end of 1965) according to the rate books : 8,601

Rateable Value : 1965 - £794,635

Sum represented by penny rate : 1965 - £ 3,286

VITAL STATISTICS. (Registrar-General's - Registered during the year).

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1964.

BIRTHS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>		<u>Total</u>	
Legitimate,	286	(297)	267	(290)	553	(587)
Illegitimate.	16	(20)	12	(21)	28	(41)
	<u>302</u>	<u>(317)</u>	<u>279</u>	<u>(311)</u>	<u>581</u>	<u>(628)</u>

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population : 20.2 (22.2)

Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population : 18.3 (20.2)

Percentage of illegitimate births : 4.82 (6.53)

<u>STILLBIRTHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total</u>	
Legitimate,	3	(10)	6	(4)	9	(14)
Illegitimate,	1	(-)	-	(-)	1	(-)
	<u>4</u>	<u>(10)</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>(4)</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>(14)</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births:- 16.9 (21.8)

Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population :- 0.35 (0.47)

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female</u>		<u>Total</u>	
All age groups.	154	(166)	123	(137)	277	(303)
<u>Infants under one year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate,	5	(7)	5	(8)	10	(15)
Illegitimate,	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	(2)
	<u>5</u>	<u>(8)</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>(9)</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>(17)</u>

MATERNAL DEATHS. Nil. (Nil).

Death Rates.

Crude Death rate per 1,000 population :-	9.6	(10.7)
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 population :-	10.9	(12.7)
All Infants per 1,000 live births :-	17.2	(27.1)
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births :-	18.1	(15.6)
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births :-	Nil	(48.8)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and stillbirths:-	Nil	(Nil).

The Principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

Cause of Death :-	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.	-	1	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach.	5	-	5
Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus.	11	2	13
Malignant Neoplasm Breast.	-	7	7
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus.	-	6	6
Other Malignant & lymphatic Neoplasms.	16	7	23
Leukaemia Aleukemia.	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	30	21	51
Coronary Disease, Angina.	27	15	42
Other Heart Disease.	7	5	12
Other Circulatory Disease.	2	7	9
Pneumonia.	10	21	31
Bronchitis.	17	7	24
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	1	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	2	1	3
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases.	12	9	21
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	-	5
All other Accidents.	3	6	9
Suicide.	1	-	1
Totals:-	154	123	277

The local death rate during the past 12 years is shown in the following table:

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>
1954	10.5
1955	9.2
1956	9.2
1957	9.7
1958	20.4
1959	11.2
1960	12.0
1961	10.6
1962	9.8
1963	10.7
1964	10.7
1965	9.6

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives causes of Infant Deaths during the year, 1965, classified into age groups :-

TABLE II.

Cause of Death.	Age Groups.							All ages Under 1 year		
	Under 1 wk	1-2 wks	2-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth	M.	F.	Total
Prematurity.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Broncho Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Broncho Pneumonia with Emphysema	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Fallots Tetralogy and Broncho Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Haemorrhagic Broncho Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, Bilateral	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textorial Tear, Labour & Delivery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bilateral Textorial Tear	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Atelectasis, Generalised gross Oedema.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Congestive Heart Failure. Cyanotic	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Congenital Heart Lesion.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:-	5	1	-	1	3	-	-	5	5	10

COMPARISON OF PONTEFRACT VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING AREAS,
THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

TABLE III.

	Pontefract Borough.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (prov- isional figures).
<u>BIRTH RATE</u> (per 1,000 estimated population).				
Crude Rate :	20.2	18.0	18.5	18.4
Adjusted Rate :	18.3	18.3	18.7	-
<u>DEATH RATE</u> (Per 1,000 estimated population).				
Crude Rate :	9.6	12.3	11.5	11.3
Adjusted Rate :	10.9	12.7	12.8	-
Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syphl. and other V.D.	0.10	0.03	0.04	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05
Tuberculosis Other.	-	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis - All Forms.	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05
Cancer, Lung, Bronchus.	0.45	0.51	0.48	0.55
Cancer, All Forms.	1.91	2.19	2.07	1.67
Vasoular Lesions of Nervous System.	1.77	1.95	1.82	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2.19	4.83	4.48	*
Respiratory Diseases.	1.98	1.39	1.30	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	-	0.13	0.16	0.25
Perinatal Mortality.	25.4	28.6	27.3	26.9
Neonatal Mortality.	10.3	14.3	13.9	13.0
Infant Mortality.	17.2	21.0	20.7	19.0
Stillbirths (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	16.9	17.0	16.0	15.7

* Figures not available.

P A R T T W O

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIVE AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

TABLE IV

Disease.	Jan/ Mar.	Apr/ Jun.	Jul/ Sept.	Oct/ Dec.	Total	Deaths	Number of Cases admitted to Hospital
Measles.	162	14	15	31	222	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	3	2	4	10	-	8
Whooping Cough.	4	5	-	-	9	-	-
Dysentery	2	8	12	-	22	-	17
Acute Pneumonia	1	2	1	-	4	1	-
Chickenpox	39	20	8	10	77	-	-
Food Poisoning.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Totals:-	210	53	38	45	346	1	25

Diphtheria.

No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

The immunisation programme against diphtheria and tetanus was continued during the year, and included the annual visits to schools in the Pontefract area.

401 children under the age of 5 years received a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and 400 against Tetanus. 1 child under 5 received a reinforcing injection against Diphtheria.

1158 school children received a reinforcing injection against diphtheria and 333 a reinforcing dose against tetanus.

A further 414 school children had a primary course against tetanus and 158 against diphtheria.

The percentage of school children who have been immunised against diphtheria is 90.68% and against tetanus 62.88%

The annual school programme for vaccination against poliomyelitis was also continued, with 142 children receiving a primary course and 337 a reinforcing dose. The percentage of school children in Pontefract protected against this disease is now 89.04%.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons.

TABLE V.

Number of Cases on Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total on Register.
	M	F	M	F	
At the commencement of 1965.	99	74	17	17	207
Notified for the first time during 1965	5	2	1	1	9
Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers.	2	1	-	-	3
Removed from Register	6	6	-	-	12
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1965	100	71	18	18	207

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:-

TABLE VI.

Entries Relating to:	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total on Register.
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died,	3	1	-	-	4
Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance to have recovered	-	1	-	-	1
Revised diagnosis - not Tuberculosis,	-	-	-	-	-
Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district.	3	4	-	-	7
Totals:-	6	6	-	-	12

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of disease:-

TABLE VII.

Ages.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Under 45	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 55	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Under 65	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Totals:	5	2	1	1	3	1	-	-

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.

PART III

COUNTY COUNCIL

OF THE

WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

DIVISION 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough.
Featherstone Urban District.
Knottingley Urban District.
Osgoldcross Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

1965.

BY

J.F. FRASER.

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

(a)

Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1965.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J.F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer
and School Medical Officer.

J.E. Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers (Part-Time).

J. Simons, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
G. Hessel, M.B., Ch.B.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff.
Ophthalmologist.

K.K. Prasher, M.B., B.S., D.O.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

R.W.L. Calderwood, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino Laryngologist.

K.M. Mayall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss E.M. Atkinson.
Mrs. P.M. Brice.
Mrs. B. Clarke.
Miss L.O.I. Day.
Miss A. Elsley.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.
Miss B.N. Kennington
Miss M. Reading.
Mrs. M.P. Sawyer.
Miss S. Sharpe.
Mrs. M.K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitors.

Mrs. E.S. Chew.
Mrs. L. Hudson.
Mrs. J.K. Smith. (Clinic Nurse).

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives.

Mrs. A. Atack.
Mrs. K. Berry.
Mrs. I. Lushell.
Miss E.S. Essex.
Mrs. E. Glover (Relief).
Mrs. B. Murphy.
Miss C. Norton.
Mrs. P. Philip.
Mrs. A.M. Randall.
Miss C.A. Roberts.

Home Nurses.

Miss L. Casey.
Mrs. S.G. Cousins.
Mrs. J.L. Deeble.
Mrs. S. Eaton.
Mrs. M.L. Etherington.
Mrs. F. Green.
Mrs. V. McVeigh.
Mrs. A. Pearce.
Mrs. J.M. Pycock.
Mrs. D. Vause.

Mental Welfare Officers.

Miss M. Horsley.
Mr. G.F.G. Townend.

Speech Therapists.

Mrs. N. Hepworth.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver (Senior Clerk).
Mr. R. Bailey. (Deputy Senior Clerk).
Miss K. Duker.
Miss J.M. Gibbons.
Miss P.G. Kelly.
Miss J.L. Newman.
Miss A. Stainton.
Miss C.A. Scurrah
Mrs. M. Slack (Part-Time).
Miss S.E. Wigham.

INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1965 was 1355, an increase of 9 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 20.0 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 20.6 for the previous year, was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 18.2 and the England and Wales birth rate of 18.0.

Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 609, a decrease of 37 compared with 1964.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The West Riding Administrative area is 11.6 and England and Wales 11.5

Infant Mortality.

In 1965 the deaths of Infants under one year of age numbered 28, a decrease of 6 compared with 1964. The Infant Mortality was 21.0 as against 25.3 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the Divisional area during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1339 notified live births, 455 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 68 of these cases.

Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the Division :-

Death of Mother.	--
Death of Child.	1
Still Births.	--
Liability to be source of infection.	--

Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by Midwives during 1965 numbered 27, all of these being domiciliary.

Gas and Air Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with a Trilene Analgesia Machine.

Pethidine only was given in 60 cases. Trilene was administered in 53 cases and with Pethidine in 276 cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are two ante-natal clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract and Knottingley. During the year 278 patients attended. The total number of attendances was 1172. 35 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at Pontefract and Featherstone Clinics.

These have continued to be fairly well attended and the number of attendances at these Clinics during the year was 886.

Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this Division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

During the year accommodation was provided for all applicants having their first baby, and for all those with home conditions unsuitable for a domiciliary confinement. Of the remaining applicants a high proportion were allotted beds.

CHILD WELFARE.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley. A mobile caravan type clinic visits the Parishes of Whitley Bridge, Womersley, Egborough, Brotherton, Kellington, Heck, Hensall, Monk Fryston and Fairburn in the Osgoldcross Rural District, at fortnightly intervals.

During 1965, 2,766 children attended at clinics and they made 22,449 attendances.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost prices to all women attending at the Clinics :-

Ostermilk No. 2.	Farex.
Trufood, humanised.	Robinson's Graits.
Cow and Gate, full cream.	Robinson's Triple Pack.
Minadex.	Robrex.
Trufood Cereal.	Robsoup.
Adexolin.	Rose Hip Syrup.
Scotts Twin Pack.	

The annual turnover of baby food, etc., is approximately £6,000.

The following were distributed free of charge :-

Ascorbic Acid.
Fersamel Syrup.

Ferrous Fumerate Tablets.
Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the Clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies.

During the year 83 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division, and 15 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups i.e. the entrants (5 years +), second age group (7 years +), intermediate years (10 years +) and leavers (14 years+) continued throughout the year at 49 schools in the Division.

Re-examinations of children who, at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3702 periodic inspections were carried out.

General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 99.78% were classified as satisfactory and only .22% as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness.

During the year health visitors and school nurses made 30,430 examinations of children in schools. Of these 724 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS.

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Dr. K.K. Prasher holds weekly clinics at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1,862 children were examined. Of these 792 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, for children from this Division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 34 sessions and saw 183 children. In all, the children made 321 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. P. W. L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 95 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 122.

Child Guidance Treatment.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding Divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. Dr. K. Maxwell held consultant sessions.

Mr. D.G. Pickles, Clinic Psychologist, and Mrs. P.Y. Harris, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the Clinic.

Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist, held clinics on two half-days each week at Pontefract Central Clinic. In addition she has one session each week at the Castle Way E.S.N. School and at the Knottingley Clinic. During the year 160 sessions were held and 103 children were treated.

Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine Candidates applying for entry to Training Colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college Authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 44 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 11 examinations were made.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The programme of Vaccination was continued during the year.

At the end of 1965 the position was as follows:-

Children and Young Persons under 18 years of age.

Number vaccinated.	20,185
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Young persons born between 1933 and 1942.

Number vaccinated.	3,145
--------------------	-------

Adults.

Number vaccinated.	1,070
--------------------	-------

24,400

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered for the first time to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

In addition, vaccination is offered each year to those pupils over the age of 13 years, who have previously been absent or whose parents have not consented. Each child has therefore, a continuing opportunity to be vaccinated before leaving school.

<u>No. of consent forms issued.</u>	<u>No. of affirmative consent forms received.</u>	<u>Mantoux Test</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive</u>
1,246	718	617	518	99
<u>Not Ascertained.</u>		<u>B.C.G. Vaccination.</u>		
--		518		

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, the following number of visits were made by the Health Visitors in the Division:

No. of children under 5 years of age visited during the year.....	5,192
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age.....	6,390
Total visits made to children aged 1 and under 2 years.....	4,142
Total visits made to children aged 2 but under 5 years.....	9,409
Total visits made to tuberculous households.....	2,082
Persons aged 65 or over (excluding Domestic Help only visits).....	842
No. of visits to persons aged 65 or over.....	1,632

HOME NURSING.

During the year 18,151 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 22,902 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during year.
(1) Medical.	413	14,062
(2) Surgical.	217	3,854
(3) Infectious Diseases.	3	20
(4) Tuberculosis.	1	5
(5) Maternal Complications.	4	29
(6) Other.	11	1,181
TOTALS :-	649	18,151
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	456	14,312
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	34	236
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	212	15,254

The reduction in the work carried out by the Home Nurses corresponds with the national picture. It is partly attributable to a change-over from drugs given by injection to newer drugs given by mouth.

CHIROPODY SERVICE.

A free Chiropody service is provided for the following categories of patient:-

- (a) Expectant Mothers.
- (b) Persons of Pensionable age. (i.e. Males over 65, Females over 60).
- (c) Handicapped Persons.

Clinics are held weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics. Patients who are unable, on health grounds, to attend the clinic, are treated in their own homes.

In 1965, 503 patients were treated at the Clinics, and made 2,000 attendances and 299 patients were treated at home and 1,481 treatments given.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows: -

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| (a) Ill. | (d) Expectant Mother. |
| (b) Lying-in. | (e) Mental Defective. |
| (c) Aged. | (f) A child not over compulsory school age. |

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division was 39.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i) Basic.	39
(ii) From Reserve	1
(iii) Total	40

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1965.

(i) Whole-time.	-
(ii) Part-time.	60
(iii) Total	60

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December, 1965.

	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed.</u>
<u>Under 65.</u>		
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers).	43	2,382
(ii) Chronic Sick and Tuberculous.	77	4,754
(iii) Others.	8	632
<u>Over 65.</u>	475	79,552
	<u>603</u>	<u>87,320</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time - 39.98

MENTAL HEALTH.

Much good work in this field was carried out during the year by the two Mental Welfare Officers working in the Division.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF.

In 1965, 43 examinations were made of staff in connection with superannuation.

Vaccination and Immunisation in Schools.

In 1962 the school immunisation programme was extended to include protection against Tetanus. There has been growing emphasis for this in recent years and it can now be administered in a combined form with Diphtheria.

By the end of 1965 out of a school population of 10,820 children, 9,687 had received protection against Diphtheria representing 89.52% of the population, whilst in the four years that Tetanus protection has been available 7,469 (69.02%) children have been immunised against tetanus.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was also introduced into the school programme in 1964 in order to improve the immunity rate. 9,799 school children are now protected against this disease, representing 90.50% of the school population.

The ready co-operation of the headteachers is very much appreciated in these schemes, the success of which is shown in the high immunity rates achieved amongst school children.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

During 1965 341 primary vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out.

The Child Neglected in its Own Home.

Quarterly meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee for the care of the child neglected in its own home were held.

These meetings attended by representatives of the Health, Welfare, Education and Childrens Departments of the County Council, the Health and Housing Departments of the County District Councils, together with the Probation Officer, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector and National Assistance Board Officer, were helpful in providing an interchange of information and a co-ordinated approach to the individual case.

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars required by Section 153(1)

1. Inspections made:

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	3	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	86	27	7	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	4	4	-	-
Totals	93	31	7	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences (section 7)					
Insufficient	1	0	0	0	0
Unsuitable or defective	40	7	0	0	0
All other defects	2	0	0	0	0
Totals	43	7	0	0	0

3. Outworkers

Nature of Work (1)	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Making wearing apparel	1	0	0	0	0	0
Finishing tapestries	1	0	0	0	0	0
All other work	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	0	0	0	0

J.F. Fraser.

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1966.

B O R O U G H O F P O N T E F R A C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

Year ended Thirty-first December, 1965

S.C.L. WILSON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,

Pontefract.

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Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, 1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Mrs. Pritchard and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report of work carried out by the Department during 1965.

For purposes of introduction general comments are made on certain aspects of the Department's principal activities, including operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 and environmental matters relating to Housing, Atmospheric Pollution and Food Hygiene.

The year 1965 permitted the first full opportunity of inspection of premises to which the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 apply. By the end of the year all registered premises had received at least one inspection and much had been accomplished in obtaining compliance with standards defined by Act and Regulation.

Some Trade Unions have expressed doubts about the effectiveness of local authorities in implementing the Act and there have been suggestions that the Act could be more effectively applied by a central inspectorate. I firmly believe that operation of the Act must remain a local function and that local authorities can show by action that the duty cast upon them has been well placed. I am equally confident that when the Minister of Labour presents to Parliament this year his own Report on the workings of the Act it will dispel any such doubts or criticism.

Turning to housing activities much of the year was taken up with an appraisal of how best the Department could play its part in environmental improvement in conjunction with the more continual processes of urban renewal. The first step was to assess on a broad basis the number of dwellinghouses which were sub-standard and not suitable for improvement or extensive repair. This resulted in some 592 dwellings being provisionally scheduled for clearance between the years 1965-1975.

Clearance of unfit houses represents one dimension of a problem which confronts all local authorities to a greater or lesser degree. It is however, a problem which will progressively become more acute if those dwellings which are without modern amenities such as hot water, baths, internal waterclosets etc., are not so provided. Experience has shown there is a tendency for older tenanted houses lacking these amenities to fall into decay through neglect. Recognising these facts the Housing Act 1964 provides for comprehensive improvement of dwellings in selected areas by means of compulsory Area Improvement Schemes.

During the latter part of 1965 a survey was carried out in the area between Wakefield Road and Halfpenny Lane and a preliminary scheme for improvement of some 300 houses was prepared and accepted in principle by the Council.

Administrative procedures laid down in the Act are far from simple, although failure to implement on this score will virtually condemn families, particularly those in tenanted properties to many years of living under sub-standard conditions.

Dwellings which are permitted to slip into premature decay can only cause a lowering of social amenity ultimately resulting in even greater financial burdens on the community as the elimination of sub-standard property becomes ever more pressing. The improvement of suitable areas of housing to provide them with what are now accepted as basic amenities has the distinct advantage of preventing area decay, rather than that of an individual house.

Environmental improvement if it is not merely to be a catch-phrase must take into account other aspects of community benefit besides those of a purely physical or structural character. One of the most controversial subjects yet at the same time widely acknowledged as being conducive to a healthier environment is that of Clean Air.

The Council are agreed on the desirability of clean air and have achieved notable success in this direction by the adoption of a district heating scheme for the Horsefair flatted development. In the domestic field this scheme provides for the most sensible use of coal. With completion of the scheme Pontefract will have an additional 250 dwellings operating smokelessly, thus contributing to a cleaner town centre - an important fact - which should not pass without acknowledgement.

At the time of writing the Council also have under active consideration the creation of a further three smoke control areas and are carefully examining the possibility of district heating in two of the proposed areas.

Food hygiene and food control continues to occupy a major part of the Department's day to day work. As I reported in my last Annual Report that despite the fall in the recorded number of offences under Food Hygiene Regulations there were a very small number of traders who refused continually to accept advice and persisted in carrying on their particular trade or business in breach of regulation. It was thus that it became necessary during 1965 to take legal proceedings against one food trader and to revoke the registrations of three hawkers of food.

Open air stalls, carts and vehicles all too often depict the seamier side of the food industry although increasing use of purpose made vehicles is a welcome feature. One finds it difficult to equate on one hand the relatively stringent standards of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations of 1960 in shop premises and the threadbare requirements when dealing with food stalls and vehicles. The provision of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature with a wash hand basin, towel, soap and nailbrush is essential to a satisfactory standard of personal hygiene and legislation ought to ensure that these facilities are provided for all types of food trades in all circumstances.

Each year the nation bears an unnecessarily high crop of food poisoning cases, many of which are avoidable if proper care is exercised in the handling, preparation and storage of food, whether in food premises or in the home. Although 'Aberdeens' are fortunately rare they serve to highlight what is at risk every time food is handled carelessly.

Full advantage has again been taken of the laboratory facilities available to the Department, and during the year under review, 553 samples and specimens were submitted to bacteriological or chemical laboratories, representing an increase of activity in this sector of some 11% over the year previous. These included water samples for chemical composition and bacterial condition, and swimming bath waters for bacterial condition, milks for the presence of pathogens, heat-treated milks - pasteurised and sterilised - for process efficiency, and milks and milk containers for cleanliness; specimens for confirmation of meat inspection opinions and other foods for presence or otherwise of food poisoning organisms, etc. One cannot speak too highly of the assistance received from the Public Health Laboratory service at Wakefield.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

House Provision and Overcrowding - Fitness
of dwellings - Houses in Multi-occupation
- Certificates of Disrepair - Common Lodging
Houses - Improvement Grants

House Provision and Overcrowding

Since post-war house building began 20 years ago, some 4,189 dwellings have been erected in the Borough - 294 of these during the year under review - as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1. New Housing 1946 - 1965

No. of dwellings erected*						
Year	By the Corporation			By Housing Association	By Private Enterprise	Total
	Permanent	Temporary	Total			
1946	6	25	31		23	54
1947	159		159		39	198
1948	161		161		26	187
1949	134		134		11	145
1950	104		104		12	116
1951	86		86		9	95
1952	105		105		11	116
1953	108		108	178	19	305
1954	73		73	536	41	650
1955	35		35		47	82
1956	26		26		65	91
1957	88		88		76	164
1958	6		6		140	146
1959	68		68		164	232
1960	107		107		192	299
1961	91		91		185	276
1962	108		108		134	242
1963	65		65		182	245
1964	34		34		180	214
1965	85		85		209	294
Total	1,647	25	1,672	714	1,765	4,151

*Excluding 38 temporary dwellings, subsequently demolished

In Table 2 the number of Corporation houses built 1947-1965 is given in four-year periods for comparison with the 1965 figure of 85.

Table 2. Corporation Building, 1946-1965

Period	No. of dwellings built by Corporation	Yearly Average
1946-1949	485	121
1950-1953	403	101
1954-1957	222	55
1958-1961	272	68
1962-1965	290	72
Total	1,672	-

Only a detailed survey would indicate accurately the housing needs of the town. The last one was made shortly after the Housing Act of 1936 introduced specific legislation to deal with overcrowding. A second one could provide useful information of present day conditions. In the absence of precise information one can only turn to statistics relating to applicants for Corporation tenancies.

At the end of 1965 the number of such applicants, living in the Borough, was 802, many of whom, when due for investigation by the Housing Department will have found other accommodation. Of these 802 applicants, 200 are persons living in lodgings at the time of application, and 233 are elderly persons seeking accommodation more suited to their needs. This latter group represents an increase of 100% over the previous year. Only 17 of the elderly were living in lodgings, and the provision of a sufficient number of new units specific to the needs of the elderly would release much under-occupied accommodation and contribute substantially to the general housing need. 172 bungalows already provided for elderly persons, supplemented by 101 bed-sitter flats - mostly let to elderly persons - are clearly inadequate to meet the demand, and further units are under construction. Table 3 indicates the rate of progress.

Table 3. Housing of Elderly Persons

In the year -	No. of 'elderly person' units in the Borough	As % of all Corporation housing
1940	18	1.3
1950	32	1.7
1960	85	3.2
1963	217	7.5
1964	234	8.5
1965	273	8.8

The Council have not confined their consideration merely to the quantitative aspect of this problem. Their schemes at Churchbalk, Mill Garth and more recently at Moverley Flatts indicate a concern for the comfort and welfare of the elderly which serves to enhance the Corporation's desire to ensure proper care of those in retirement. There is an ever growing demand for the smaller housing unit designed to meet the needs of the over 65's and a small carefully planned flat or bungalow can be of incalculable benefit to the person who has reached that part of life in which there occurs a natural diminution of physical energy.

Extensive social changes have occurred since the turn of the century, and major advances have taken place both in preventative and therapeutic medicine which have prolonged greatly the expectation of life. In consequence the age pattern has changed with a proportionate increase in the numbers of people of retirement age. This group now represent about one-tenth of the total population as compared with those engaged in productive work. In the next twenty years this number may well rise and inevitably influence the type of houses local authorities provide in future years.

Overcrowding

In this Report 'statutory overcrowding' refers to the gross state of over-occupation which constitutes an offence under the Housing Act 1957. Such overcrowding occurs when the number of persons sleeping in a house exceeds the 'permitted number' of persons, as given in the rent book. The number of cases found and abated during the past six years are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Incidence and Abatement of Statutory Overcrowding

No. of cases	Year					
	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
On register at beginning of year	3	2	1	0	1	0
Added to register during the year	0	0	1	1	1	1
Abated during the year	1	1	2	0	2	1
On register at end of year	2	1	0	1	0	0

These figures may appear to be impressively low and, without explanation could be misleading. The statutory standard was laid down over a quarter of a century ago and, in my opinion, fails completely to measure up to modern ideas on the subject. Because of this low standard many families of only four or five persons, having insufficient bedroom accommodation and being clearly in need of rehousing, do not qualify for the statutory priority accorded to 'over-crowded' applicants for local authority tenancies. It may well be that a higher standard, nationally applied, would create problems in some of our cities, but smaller communities should not have to 'mark time' until the whole country is ready for a new standard.

Fitness of dwellings

Six unfit houses were demolished and 6 closed and 76 were repaired or improved during the year as the result of action taken by the Department. Particulars of housing activities are summarised below:

1. Inspection of houses -

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects
(under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 456 |
| (2) Number of inspections made in this connection (initial inspections, re-visits, works in progress, etc., | 795 |
| (3) Number of houses (included in (1)) above inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations | 295 |
| (4) Houses needing further action: | |
| (a) Number considered to be unfit for human habitation | 250 |
| (b) Number (excluding those in (a) above) considered to be not in all respects reasonably fit | 25 |

2. Remedy of defective conditions -

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Houses made fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of informal action | 69 |
| (2) Houses rendered fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of formal action: | |
| (a) Housing Act | 1 |
| (b) Public Health Act | 6 |

3. Clearance, etc. of houses -

(1) Action taken in respect of Clearance Areas:

(a) Number of new areas declared	-
(b) Number of families displaced	21
(c) Number of houses (in clearance areas only) demolished	-

(2) Action taken in respect of Individual Unfit houses:

(a) Number represented to Council	13
(b) Number in respect of which -	
(i) Demolition Orders were made	6
(ii) Closing Orders were made	6
(c) Number of houses closed on Closing Orders	6
(d) Number of families displaced	8
(e) Number of persons involved	22
(f) Number of individual unfit houses demolished	6

It should not pass unrecorded that with the demolition of Westfield Terrace the last of the 'back-to-back' terrace housing in the Borough will disappear.

At the end of 1965, 392 houses have been vacated although demolition or other treatment has been completed in only 378 cases. For information purposes Table 5 gives particulars during the last five years.

Table 5. Slum Clearance 5 year Progress Report

	Yearly Progress				
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
No. of houses in respect of which formal action was initiated -					
(a) In Clearance Areas	0	0	0	64	0
(b) Individual Unfit Houses	11	30	11	2	18
(c) Purchased by Council	0	2	6	0	0
Total	11	32	17	66	18
No. of houses vacated -					
(d) By Council rehousing	45	56	26	2	29
(e) Otherwise	2	1	1	0	0
Total	47	57	27	2	29
No. of houses in respect of which action was completed -					
(f) Closed (and not subsequently demolished)	19	2	16	2	6
(g) Demolished	20	47	27	11	6
(h) Reconstructed as fit houses	0	0	0	0	0
Total	39	49	43	13	12

Slum Clearance

It is with considerable interest and anticipation that one notes that last year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government set up a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee whose terms of reference were to - 'Establish Objective Criteria which could be used in an analysis of establishing how much of the Nation's Housing stock is Unfit for Human Habitation'.

The Housing Act of 1957 lays down the current standard to be applied in assessing the degree of unfitness and states that regard must be had to the following:

(a) repair, (b) stability, (c) freedom from damp, (d) natural lighting, (e) ventilation, (f) water supply, (g) drainage and sanitary conveniences and facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water.

In Clearance Areas bad arrangement on site and narrowness of streets can also be taken into account. Even those matters are limited in their application to relative environmental conditions.

This particular standard of assessment is based on recommendations first published in the 'Manual on Unfit Houses and Unhealthy Areas' by the Ministry of Health in 1919, and now some 50 years old; it takes no account of the vast changes that have taken place in the social and economic life of the nation. The standard fails to require amenities for existing dwellings and confines itself largely to a minimum standard of structure. Houses without internal watercloset, artificial lighting, bath and hot water can still be regarded as reasonably suitable for occupation. The real test in my opinion ought to be the ability to provide sufficient facilities and a reasonable degree of amenity for comfortable living and to take into account also the environment in which the house is situated. Assessment of fitness should no longer depend solely on a minimum standard of structure as is the present situation. It must be conceded, however, that the remedy is not without difficulties, particularly in 'twilight properties'.

During 1965 a survey of older properties in the Borough was completed and a programme for future slum clearance prepared and accepted. The programme will extend over a period of ten years on two 5-year phases. In the first phase the intention will be to deal primarily with Tanshelf and Prince of Wales Terrace areas.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

The problems arising primarily from multi-occupation occur mainly in the larger towns, and the associated squalid conditions which resulted in the passing of Part II of the Housing Act of 1961 and the Housing Regulations of 1962 and Part IV of the Housing Act 1964 are not to be found in the Borough. The bulk of the one-time high class residential property which, in old age, lends itself to multiple occupation, has largely disappeared as the result of slum clearance and commercial development.

Rent Act 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

Table 6 gives particulars of applications dealt with by the Council since the Act came into operation some nine years ago. The fact that only two applications have been received in the last four years is not without significance. Tenants seem to find the provisions of this Act relating to rent abatement either too intricate to understand or just not worth the effort.

Table 6. Certificates of Disrepair Statistics

	1957 to 1964	1965	Total
No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	36	1	37
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	3	0	3
No. of decisions to issue certificates if no undertaking given to remedy	32	1	33
No. of undertakings given by landlords	23	0	23
No. of undertakings not accepted by Council	0	0	0
No. of certificates issued	9	1	10

Common Lodging Houses

The Ministry of Health ask for information about common lodging houses. There are no such premises in the Borough, the last having been demolished over a decade ago.

Section 235 of the Public Health Act 1936, defines a common lodging house as a house provided for the purposes of accommodating by night poor persons, not being members of the same family, who resort thereto and are allowed to occupy one common room for the purposes of sleeping or eating. There is no evidence of need for such premises in the Borough in these days.

Improvement Grants

Standard Grant

In suitable cases the Standard Grant can be claimed as a right. It is intended to encourage owners to modernise houses having a useful life of at least fifteen years and to which, without major structural additions involving much new building work, there can be added the 'standard amenities' not already provided.

It has been estimated that there is probably in excess of two million homes in this country still suitable for improvement within the next ten years. This applies to the older improvable houses which lack the five 'standard amenities' - hot water supply, a fixed bath, a wash hand basin, an inside watercloset and a proper foodstore. To improve all of these dwellings would involve increasing the present rate of improvement from some one hundred and thirty thousand a year to two hundred thousand as soon as possible.

In Pontefract the 1961 census revealed that some 13% of dwellings were without fixed baths, as compared with a West Riding and National figure of 25%. Even taking into account that slum clearance will over the next ten years, remove nearly 600 dwellings which, with odd exceptions, do not possess baths and often no hot water, there will still remain an estimated 5% of the Borough's housing stock to be improved or otherwise dealt with.

Voluntary improvement cannot be relied upon to achieve this and with the introduction of the Housing Act 1964 there is provided for the first time compulsory power to secure improvement in rented accommodation. Part II of the Act enables local authorities to compel owners to improve tenanted dwellings in designated 'Improvement Areas', and elsewhere at the request of the tenant. The introduction of compulsion does not mean the abandonment of voluntary improvement, indeed this is the only way of securing improvement of dwellings in owner occupation.

Discretionary Grant

The Discretionary Grant is available for more extensive improvement. It is intended to apply to property which has a life of at least thirty years. A grant is paid solely at the discretion of the local authority and in addition to the 'standard amenities' may provide for the improvement of lighting, ventilation, heating and cooking facilities, and for works necessary to eliminate certain inherent structural defects.

Progress Rate

During 1965 twenty-nine applications for grant were made - 26 standard and 3 discretionary. In twenty-three cases improvements were completed during 1965. Since grants first became available some seventeen years ago ninety-eight houses have been improved with the aid of grants from the Corporation.

At the present rate of progress based as it is on voluntary application, it will take well over 15 years before all families in the Borough can lay claim to having available hot water, baths and internal water-closets. It is clear that if the rate of improvement is to be speeded up then recourse must be made to the powers of compulsion provided in the Housing Act 1964.

Further statistical information is given in the Table overleaf.

Table 7. Improvement Grants: Applications and Results

Year	No. of Applications						No. of approved applications withdrawn		Grants actually made			
	Discretionary			Standard					Total amount			
	Made	Approved	Rejected	Made	Approved	Rejected	Dis.	Stan.	No.	£	No.	£
1954*	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1955	22	19	4	-	-	-	3	-	3	317	-	-
1956	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	10	1,559	-	-
1957	10	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	3	245	-	-
1958	11	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	1,099	-	-
1959	20	12	8	12	11	1	-	-	15	1,960	-	-
1960	5	5	-	24	23	1	1	1	9	1,254	20	2,098
1961	4	-	4	9	8	1	-	-	2	243	15	1,849
1962	2	2	-	14	13	1	-	-	1	155	5	564
1963	2	2	-	24	24	-	-	-	1	125	12	1,385
1964	4	3	1	20	18	2	-	-	-	-	23	2,646
1965	3	2	1	26	26	-	-	-	2	400	21	2,330
Total	89	63	26	129	123	6	4	1	56	7,357	96	10,872

*No applications were made prior to 1954.

AIR POLLUTION

General Conditions - Industrial Pollution -
Smoke Control Areas - Road Vehicle Pollution

General Conditions

Pontefract is officially included in the West Riding Black Area. This indicates a disturbing level of atmospheric pollution, and calls for concerted action by all classes of fuel users to minimise pollution, irrespective of source. Unnecessary smoke from industry, domestic premises, rail and road vehicles must be prevented whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Industrial Pollution

Only a few years ago it was accepted that industry was responsible for more than half the smoke emitted in the country as a whole. The latest figures available - indicate that industry, including railways - now produce less than one fifth of the total smoke emission. It must be considerably less than this in our own Borough, which, with only 17 industrial chimneys, has no major industrial smoke pollution problem. Obviously greater progress has been made in reducing air pollution from industrial sources than by domestic smoke where discharges from low level domestic chimneys have a greater polluting effect on the air we breathe near ground level than the discharges from the higher industrial chimneys.

Smoke Control Areas

There are two smoke control areas in operation in the Borough. The following Table gives particulars of buildings and acreage involved.

Table 8. Smoke Control Area Progress

No. of operative Orders	No. of premises				% of houses in Borough	Area in Acres	% of acreage in Borough
	Houses	Industrial	Commercial etc.	Total			
2	927	20	110	1,057	10.2	6.11	12.5

The No. 2 Smoke Control Order was brought into operation in 1962.

There has been no extension to existing areas since that date although at the time of preparing this Report the creation of a further three smoke control areas is under active consideration by the Council.

An immense task faces all authorities in 'black areas' who, like ourselves, have not progressed in establishing smoke control areas. It is a task which may eventually have to be undertaken without option.

The time for pleading a case for clean air is long past. Legacies of ill-health and soot blackened and eroded buildings can only disappear with a vigorous approach to the whole problem of clean air. At the present time many cities and towns in the North bear witness to a period in history when both fuel and man-power alike were wasted.

Since the White Paper on Domestic Fuel Supplies in 1963 the National Coal Board and private producers have redoubled their energies in the field

of premium fuel production to such good effect that the estimates in the White Paper are no longer valid and in March 1965 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 13/65 stated that supplies of these fuels would be adequate to meet any foreseeable demand.

As recent as January of this year the Minister of Housing and Local Government in a letter to 'black area' authorities expressed his concern at those who had taken little or no action in the control of domestic pollution and asked that they review the matter with a view to promoting this particular aspect of public health. In the light of response to his request the Minister will decide whether he should seek an opportunity of asking Parliament to make smoke control a statutory duty.

The cost of achieving domestic clean air will inevitably rise with installation of more efficient appliances but will be infinitely less than the economic and social costs of allowing the evil of air pollution to continue.

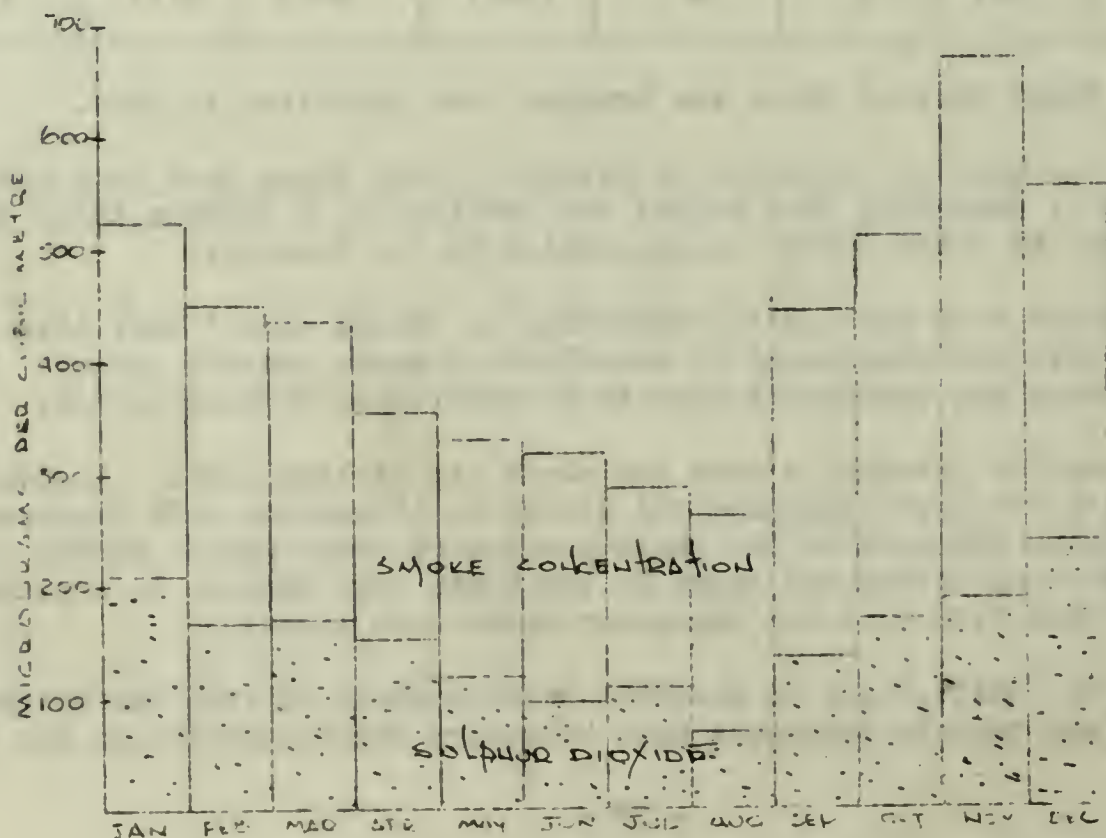
Road Vehicle Pollution

Unlike railway smoke, road vehicle pollution is not dealt with under the Clean Air Act, but by Regulations made under the Road Traffic Act and administered by the Police. Since April 1957, Regulations have required every motor vehicle to be so constructed that no avoidable smoke is emitted. Regulations made in 1957 require that no person shall use any vehicle from which smoke is emitted which is likely to cause danger to property or injure or cause damage to a road user. Further Regulations were made controlling the use of excess fuel starting devices. One perhaps hears too infrequently of offenders being taken to Court, but it must be conceded that the statutory approach to the problem of road vehicle pollution is foremost that of public safety and not of public health.

Atmospheric Pollution Records

The recording of atmospheric pollution was re-commenced during 1964 after a lapse occasioned by the sceptism of scientific authorities regarding the accuracy of old types of instruments formerly in widespread use.

More acceptable is the volumetric type of apparatus for the measurement of suspended impurity which is now in use in the town centre to sample daily the air in the town centre. In the accompanying histogram, readings for 1965 clearly show a wide variation between winter and summer levels of pollution.



Section Three

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Supply - Meat Inspection - Milk and Milk Products
- General Food Inspection and Sampling - Food Premises
and Processing - Sale of food in the Open - Disposal
of Unfit Food

Meat Supply

The throughput of animals at the Municipally operated abattoir was disappointing. A total of 5,413 cattle units were slaughtered as compared with 5,971 in 1964. The service of one hundred per cent meat inspection was maintained and all carcase meat and offals from the Municipal Abattoir finding their way into the shops of local users could be guaranteed free from disease. This type of service and the more modern concepts of hygienic meat preparation are deserving of better support. Unfortunately economic trends are towards large wholesaling groups and multiple trading concerns; combined with the decline in the number of small retail butchers the pattern for the future of the meat industry is probably cast.

Table 9. Throughput - Yearly periods

Year	Throughput	
	Total No. of Cattle units	Weekly average No. of cattle units*
1955	2,503	48
1956	3,238	62
1957	3,168	60
1958	3,405	65
1959	3,340	64
1960	3,216	61
1961	4,625	89
1962	5,757	110
1963	5,638	108
1964	5,971	115
1965	5,413	104

*One cattle unit is equivalent to three calves, five sheep or two pigs.

Table 10 gives particulars of throughput during 1965, together with the 1964 figures, for comparative purposes. The 1965 throughput of 11,872 (5,413 cattle units) set against the 1964 throughput represents a decrease of 9.3%.

Table 10. Throughput at Municipal Abattoir

4 weeks ended	Throughput: No. of animals of the classes named										Mean weekly No. of Cattle Units	
	Cattle		Calves		Sheep		Pigs		Total			
	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964
23rd January	139	169	1	1	430	416	317	326	887	912	96	104
20th February	118	165	-	-	364	357	431	462	913	984	101	117
20th March	135	146	-	-	291	283	479	424	905	853	108	104
17th April	125	161	1	4	282	202	511	529	919	896	109	117
15th May	145	175	-	-	217	259	462	504	824	938	105	119
12th June	135	120	-	-	267	289	418	441	820	850	100	99
10th July	123	139	1	-	407	440	447	477	978	1056	107	126
7th August	115	123	1	1	341	444	418	448	875	1016	98	109
4th September	115	132	-	1	387	553	380	489	882	1175	97	122
2nd October	130	137	1	1	412	420	433	545	976	1103	107	123
30th October	112	142	-	1	383	517	393	423	888	1083	97	114
27th November	124	139	-	-	383	482	465	467	972	1088	109	117
25th December	98	101	2	2	283	353	650	695	1033	1151	120	130
Near Average	124	142	-	1	319	386	446	479	913	1008	104	115

Meat Inspection

The most important aspect of the meat inspection service during the year continued to be the impact of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963. Local Authorities, by these Regulations, are required to implement a complete and efficient meat inspection service covering abattoirs in their district. The Regulations are designed to achieve 100% inspection of carcass meat and offal in areas where previously it had not been possible; this did not affect the Corporation's Abattoir where a full and proper inspection service has always been maintained. Procedure for inspection, however, does call for a greater length of time to be spent at the Abattoir and it is usual for inspectors engaged on meat inspection to be present during the hours of slaughter, and also to ensure that ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations are efficiently carried out.

During 1965 twelve whole carcasses were condemned. Of the twelve carcasses condemned in all most every case the animals had been submitted for emergency slaughter. Subsequent post-mortem condition supported by bacteriological enquiry confirmed their inadmissibility for human consumption and accordingly they were rejected.

Tuberculosis

The following Table shows the remarkable decline in the incidence of tuberculosis - surely a credit to all those concerned in its eradication. Where the disease is detected in bovines the facts are reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whose veterinary officers trace the animal back to the original herd where further detailed examinations take place in order to eradicate any other diseased animal should they show symptoms of the disease.

Table 11. Incidence of Tuberculosis in Food Animals during the past 15 years

Incidence of Tuberculosis	Year			
	1950	1955	1960	1965
% of animals affected -				
Cattle excluding cows	17.8	9.3	0.7	0.06
Cows	50.8	16.3	4.1	-
Pigs	5.9	2.1	0.7	0.32

Cysticercosis Bovis

Four beast carcasses found to be affected with cysticercosis give a percentage incidence of 0.24. In all cases cysts were found to be localised and degenerate. Table 11a gives comparative figures of incidence over the past five years.

Table 11a. Incidence of Cysticercosis Bovis

Year	No. of cases	% Incidence
1961	16	1.08
1962	12	0.63
1963	19	1.15
1964	17	0.92
1965	4	0.24

All Diseases

A total of 12 carcasses, 24 part carcasses and 508 organs and parts were condemned, their total weight being 1 ton, 19 cwt. 2 qtrs. and 18 lbs. Table 12 gives particulars of the various classes of animals inspected and of condemnation.

Table 12. Record of Meat Inspection and Incidence of Disease

Class of Animal	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,579	35	7	4,447	5,804
Number inspected	1,579	35	7	4,447	5,804
All diseases except tuber- culosis and cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	11
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	168	-	-	51	590
% of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.7	-	-	1.14	1.35
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	19
% of animals inspected affected with tubercu- losis	0.06	-	-	-	0.32
Cysticerci:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Causes of Condemnation of whole carcasses

2 pigs - peritonitis (acute diffuse septic)
1 pig - pneumonia and multiple abscesses
3 pigs - pyaemia
1 pig - swine fever
1 pig - septicaemia (septic arthritis)
1 pig - bruising (extensive and severe)
2 pigs - emaciation (pathological)
1 beast - arsenical poisoning

Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

Throughout the year the Abattoir continued to operate as a Certified Deadweight Centre for the purposes of the Fatstock Guarantee Scheme, under which guarantee payments are made to producers of livestock under Part I of the Agriculture Act 1947. To qualify for guarantee payment, fatstock must be certified by authorised officers of the Ministry of Agriculture. This is a convenient arrangement for producers who do not need to use the livestock market and serves a dual purpose of encouraging the smaller producer to supply quality meat to the family butcher using the Abattoir.

Milk Supply

As required by Article 8 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, a register is kept of all persons carrying on the trade of milk distributor from premises in the Borough, and of all premises in the district which are used as dairies (except dairy farms, which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food). Table 13 gives particulars of the changes which took place during the year and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 13. Registration of Dairies and Milk Distributors

Particulars of changes	Dairies	Distributors	
		From Shops*	Others
No. on register at 1st January	4	45	10
No. in respect of which new applications were made	-	-	2
No. removed from register - Trading ceased	-	8	2
No. on register at 31st December	4	37	10

*Only bottled 'sterilised' milk sold in these cases.

Generally, the standard of distribution is satisfactory. Minor violations of the Milk and Dairies Regulations in relation to storage and distribution have not necessitated formal action. Conditions at dairies were reasonably satisfactory.

Twenty-six samples of milk of various grades, either in bottle or carton, ready for sale, were taken during the course of the year for examination for compliance with the standards laid down by the Regulations. All were satisfactory. (See Table 14 overleaf for details.)

During the year, complaint was made on one occasion by a consumer in respect of a dirty milk bottle. The bottle upon examination was found to have spores of a very common mould, black mucor. After careful consideration of all the available facts the Council issued a caution to the producer concerned.

This particular case gave special emphasis to the Department's activities in relation to the cleansing of bottles before re-use. Washed bottles and milk churn rinses were taken periodically from the local bottling dairy for bacteriological examination and all reached a high standard. Despite elaborate precautions, the odd dirty bottle - so misused by a consumer - that the most efficient of washing machines fails to clean it, gets through to the next consumer. If the economics of the industry allow it, a change over to non-returnable cartons would solve this and other problems.

Table 14. Graded Milks: Sampling Records

Grade of Milk	Test Applied			
	Methylene Blue*	Phospha-tase**	Turbidity**	Biolo-gical***
Pasteurised	15	15	-	-
Sterilised	2	-	2	-
T.T. Pasteurised	1	1	-	-
Untreated	8	-	-	8

* For cleanliness and keeping quality.

** For efficient heat treatment.

*** For presence of tubercle and Brucella organisms.

Ice-Cream Manufacture and Sale

As required by Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, a register is kept of all premises used for the sale, manufacture and storage for sale of ice-cream. Table 15 sets out the position during the year.

Table 15. Registration of Ice-Cream Premises

Particulars of changes	Sale and storage	Manufacture sale and storage
No. on register at 1st January	103	2
No. in respect of which new applications were made	-	-
No. of registrations cancelled	-	-
No. of changes in occupation	-	-
No. on register at 31st December	103	2

The two registered ice-cream factories are no longer used for manufacturing purposes, and all ice-cream sold in the Borough is made elsewhere. Nine manufacturers are registered to sell their ice-cream from vehicles in the Borough. Such vehicles must meet the standard laid down by the Council, which includes the provision of a hot water unit for handwashing, and other measures for preventing contamination of ice-cream.

In the course of the year attention was focused on the activities of food hawkers and particularly those of ice-cream vendors. A survey in the summer months clearly indicated serious hygienic lapses on the part of two vendors, in that they persistently failed to maintain hot and cold water, soap, towels, etc., for personal hygiene and the cleaning of equipment. As a result the persons concerned had their registrations as hawkers of food revoked and more recently one of those concerned was successfully prosecuted for infringements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

There is no test for the bacteriological grading of ice-cream which is considered satisfactory for use as a statutory tests, but on the Provisional Grading at present in use, the samples of ice-cream (all manufactured outside the Borough) taken during the year may be grouped as follows:

Table 16. Ice-Cream Grading (Methylene Blue Test)

Grades	Official Standard	Local figures for year 1965	
		No.	Percentage
1	Not less than 50%	9	82%
1 and 2	Not less than 80%	11	100%
3	Not more than 20%	-	-
4	0	-	-

General Food Inspection and Sampling

In addition to the inspection of meat at the Abattoir, shops were visited from time to time for the inspection of meat and other foods. Over the period under review the following total quantities of unfit food were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

902 lbs.	tinned meats
569 lbs.	frozen foods
220 lbs.	carcase meat
142 lbs.	sweets
48 lbs.	fruit
10 lbs.	grapes
4 pkts.	cheese spread
87 lbs.	various foods

Total weight - 17 cwts. 2qrs. 18 lbs.

Certificates were issued to traders in 95 cases, enabling them to claim from wholesalers for loss of foods condemned.

During 1965 systematic sampling of food for bacteriological purposes continued as in previous years; the results obtained, although of no statutory significance, provided the Department with much useful information. In particular, when less than satisfactory results were obtained, and the product had been manufactured or prepared at premises within the Borough, those premises and processes were given special and detailed examination. At the same time the technique of series sampling in which food in various stages of preparation is sampled for evidence of bacterial activity was resorted to. Articles and equipment used during food preparation were also examined by the use of prepared swabs and some 30 swabs were taken in premises during the year.

These techniques and interpretation of results are the Department's early warning system; but more than this, the results obtained by these methods provide a wealth of material for use in practical education. The work involved has proved to be both interesting and rewarding and it has been found in practice that both management and workers respond more readily to appeals for greater care and cleanliness if the interpretation of bacteriological findings are linked in discussion, to the employee's every day work.

Food Premises

The conditions under which food for sale is prepared and handled in the factories, warehouses, shops, restaurants and hotels in the Borough occupies much of the Department's time.

The numbers of the different classes of food premises as at the end of the year are given in Table 17 overleaf.

Table 17. Food Premises according to trade at end of the year.

Class of Premises	Manufacture or Preparation	Distribution	Total	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960		
				No. complying with Reg. 16	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19
General Grocery		75	75	75	75	75
Bread and Confectionery	6	8	14	14	14	14
Sugar Confectionery	2	21	23	23	23	23
Greengrocer, fish, game and poultry	2	11	13	13	13	13
Butcher and meat preparation	20	22	42	42	42	42
Chemists		6	6	6	6	6
Fish Frying	18		18	18	18	18
Public Houses and Clubs		53	53	53	53	53
Off licence premises		7	7	7	7	7
Cafes, snack bars and canteens	36		36	36	36	36
Church premises (kitchens)	6		6	6	6	6
Beer and mineral water bottling	3		3	3	3	3
Miscellaneous	3	9	12	12	12	12
Totals	96	212	308	308	308	308

One hundred and twenty-three of these premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955; 103 of these, as already indicated, are ice-cream premises, the remaining 20 being registered for the manufacture of made-up meats, etc.

Table 18 gives figures indicative of the Department's activities in this field during 1965 and for comparison the figures for 1964 are also given.

Table 18. Inspection of Food Premises

Year	No. of visits paid to food premises	No. of food rooms inspected	No. of offences noted under Food Hygiene Regulations	No. of offences outstanding at end of year
1964	317	871	244	84
1965	366	915	239	157

In the case of one restaurant it was necessary, despite several warnings, to institute legal proceedings in respect of nine infringements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960. The prosecution was successful and fines totalling £180 were imposed upon the proprietor.

Sale of Food in the Open Air

As required by Section 76(1) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, registers are kept of persons hawking food in the Borough and hawkers' storage premises. Table 19 gives particulars of the changes which took place during 1965 and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 19. Registration of Food Hawkers and Storage Premises

Particulars	Hawkers	Storage Premises
No. on Register at 1st January	63	3
No. in respect of which new applications were made	17	-
No. in respect of which application was refused	-	-
No. of registrations revoked -		
(a) following offences	3	-
(b) ceased to trade	17	1
No. on register at 31st December	60	2

In Table 19 above reference is made to three registrations which were revoked following offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The trades concerned were those of preparation and sale of hot-dogs and sale of ice-cream.

In food premises a high standard of food hygiene can be obtained providing the basic needs of adequate accommodation and services are satisfied. In outside trading, whether it be from a market stall or mobile shop, these needs are normally met at only minimal level. At this time two years ago I wrote that the Government had indicated their

intention to issue regulations covering the use of outdoor markets and mobile shops. I said then that these regulations were long overdue and re-iterate that within the practical limits set by the very nature of these trades, the standards of construction and hygiene must bear some relationship to those required in shops.

The number of purpose-built mobile shops is gradually increasing and is a most welcome feature, but even in these, space is necessarily at a premium, artificial lighting can be woefully inadequate, and a limited hot water supply encourages its conservation rather than use. There is not the slightest indication that the future will bring any diminution in these trades; on new housing estates they have taken over the service which in former times was given by the 'corner shop'. As door-to-door traders, the convenience they offer to the housewife offsets the competition of supermarkets who usually do not provide a delivery service.

In this aspect of the Department's work, the utmost difficulty is experienced in keeping track of mobile shops. I am of opinion that a system of annual licensing would be more useful and administratively more acceptable than the present system of registration.

Table 20 analyses the number of registered food hawkers according to the various classes of trade.

Table 20. Food Hawkers according to Trade

Trade	Added during 1965	Removed during 1965	As at 31st Dec. 1965
Butchery	1	3	8
Butchery and Grocery	1	1	2
Greengrocery	2	5	16
Greengrocery and Fish	2	1	2
Greengrocery and Confectionery	4	-	1
General Grocery and Confectionery	-	1	7
Bread and Confectionery	-	2	4
Ice-Cream	3	5	9
Fishmonger	2	-	4
Shell fish	-	-	2
Fish and Chips	2	-	2
Hot-dogs	4	2	2
Grocery, Butchery, Fish and Greengrocery	-	-	1

Disposal of Unfit Food

All unfit food should be disposed of in such a manner that it cannot later, by accident or otherwise, be used for human consumption. In particular the disposal of diseased meat from slaughterhouses and all knacker meat, must be under strict control.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960 require, with certain exceptions, that unfit meat shall be sterilised, and all knacker meat stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution as pet food, or for processing for any purpose. The principal exception is unfit meat from slaughterhouses which do not have their own sterilisa-

tion plant; such meat must be sent to processors under arrangements approved by the appropriate public health officers.

A great deal of unfit meat is brought into the Borough for sterilisation at factories referred to later in this Report under the heading of Offensive Trades. Co-ordination between the Department and the source authorities has been maintained; every effort has been made to ensure compliance with the Regulations at all collecting points. I am satisfied that the chances of unfit meat being delivered into the wrong channels are remote.

Section Four

OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE - SAFETY AND WELFARE

Factories - Outworkers - Offices - Shops -
Other Workplaces

The Department shares responsibility for hygiene and welfare in places of employment with the Factory Inspectorate of the Home Office. So far as non-industrial premises are concerned recent legislation in the form of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 has increased considerably the local authority's responsibilities. Standards have been prescribed by Act and Regulations made thereunder and in the year under review work was primarily concerned with ensuring that all registered premises received an initial inspection.

Implementation of the Act calls for a special report to be submitted to the Ministry of Labour annually on matters of information and work carried out by the Local Authority Inspectorate, in enforcing the Act and its Regulations and a more comprehensive Report was given under separate cover earlier this year.

Factories

The term 'factory' as used in the Factories Act 1937, includes all premises where articles are made, altered or repaired for purposes of gain, and I append a list of the different trades carried on at factories in the Borough:

Automobile engineering	Furniture manufacture and
Baking	polishing
Barley processing	Glue and size making
Beer and mineral water	Grain and seed processing
bottling	Laundering
Blacksmithery	Liquorice confectionery
Boot repairing	manufacture and packing
Box and packing material	Malting
manufacture	Milk pasteurisation
Brush making	Monumental masonry
Building	Photography
Brick manufacture	Precision engineering
Cattle food manufacture	Printing
Clothes manufacture	Slaughter of food animals
Coal-gas distribution	Tailoring
Engineering	Tinsmithery
Fat refining	Upholstery
Fellmongering	Whitesmithery
Founding	

The register of Factories, kept by the Council pursuant to section 8(3) of the Act, contains particulars of 93 factories, and Table 21 gives information relating to inspections, notices and defects found and remedied.

Table 21. Factories Records - 1965

	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written notices	Defects	
				Found	Remedied
Factories without mechanical power (secs. 1 to 4 and 6 and 7 of the Act enforced by L.A.)	3	-	-	-	-
Factories with mechanical power (sec. 7 enforced by L.A.)	86	27	7	43	7
Totals	89	27	7	43	7
Other premises (sec. 7 enforced by L.A.)	4	4	-	-	-
Totals	93	31	7	43	7

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

A detailed general inspection of all registered premises had been achieved by the end of the year. The only registered premises not to have received a general inspection were those in covered markets to which special Regulations will apply in due course and are not required to be inspected at the present time. In addition to visual inspections the permanent records include measurements of floor area and cubic capacities, and permitted numbers computed for each individual room. Where overcrowding occurs or where a position of saturation is found to exist, occupiers of premises are advised accordingly.

In every room inspected an assessment of the standard of illumination was undertaken and observations recorded in respect of the 'glare index' if considered necessary.

Of the 290 premises visited since the commencement of the Act, 275 failed to comply with the Act in some respect at the time of the initial inspection. In many cases the deficiency amounted to little more than the absence of a thermometer, but in others the cumulative effect of several defective conditions was of much greater import.

It is fitting to mention that in the majority of cases employers have been unstinting in their co-operation and I think it is not unduly optimistic to assume that many of the offences indicated in Table A will upon re-inspection be found to have been remedied.

Prescribed Statistical information in accordance with the
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Annual Reports Order, 1964

TABLE A - REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	9	75	62
Retail Shops	10	188	141
Wholesale shops, warehouses	4	11	10
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	7	41	40
Fuel storage depots	-	1	1
Totals	30	316	254

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED
PREMISES

610

TABLE C - ANALYSIS OF RECORDED PARTICULARS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace (1)	No. of persons employed (2)
Offices	759
Retail shops	1,065
Wholesale departments, warehouses	93
Catering establishments open to the public	242
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	1
Total	2,160

Total Males 877

Total Females 1,283

TABLE D - SUMMARY OF OFFENCES AT END OF 1965

<u>Section or Regulation of the Act</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>No. of recorded offences</u>
4	Cleanliness	97
5	Overcrowding	6
4 and 16	Cleanliness and maintenance of floors and steps	24
6	Temperature	98
7	Ventilation	16
8	Lighting	238
9	Sanitary conveniences (Sanitary Conveniences Regulations 1964)	165
10	Washing facilities (Washing Facilities Regulations 1964)	82
11	Supply of Drinking Water	8
12	Accommodation for clothing	3
13	Sitting facilities	9
14	Seating for sedentary work	-
15	Eating facilities	5
16	Safety aspect of floors, passages and stairs	167
17	Fencing of exposed parts of machinery (Dangerous Machines Order 1964)	8
18	Avoidance of exposure of young persons to danger in cleaning machinery	1
23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
24	First-Aid: General provisions (First-Aid Order 1964)	104
49	Registration	5
50	Provision of Abstract of the Act (The Information for Employees Regulations 1965)	160
Total		<u>1,196</u>

TABLE E

No. of premises on register at year end 31st December (1)	No. of premises receiving general inspection (2)	Total No. of rooms inspected (3)	No. of recorded offences (4)	No. of premises that complied with the Act (5)
1964 318	36	171	369	0
1965 316	254	978	1,196	15

Section Five

HYGIENE IN PLACES OF PUBLIC RESORT

Swimming Baths - Refreshment Houses - Hairdressing Establishments

Public Swimming Baths - Bacterial Control of Water

The two swimming baths (adults' and childrens' indoor baths) are filled at the beginning of each season from the public supply, and operate on the continuous filtration system, with sterilisation by chlorination. Samples were taken regularly to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory conditions. Fifty-six samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and chemical tests made on each sampling occasion to check 'free chlorine' content and alkalinity. The results, given in Table 22, along with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, indicate the standard attained during the year.

Table 22. Swimming Baths Water: Results of Examinations

	Standard recommended by Ministry of Health	Results from Baths	
		Large Swim	Small Swim
No. of samples taken	-	28	28
No. of samples containing coliform organisms in 100 ml. water	0	3	2
Percentage of number of samples submitted to plate count, and containing in 1 ml. water -			
(a) 0 - 10 colonies	not less than 75%	89%	93%
(b) 11 - 100 colonies	not more than 25%	-	-
(c) over 100 colonies	None	11%	7%
% of number of tests for residual chlorine content showing -			
(a) Less than 0.2 ppm	0	-	-
(b) 0.2 ppm or more	100%	100%	100%
% of number of tests for pH value alkalinity -			
(a) between 7.2 and 8.0	100%	100%	100%
(b) outside these limits	0	-	-

Paddling Pool

The paddling pool in the Valley Gardens has proved to be a popular addition to the Gardens. Frequency of water changes, and methods of bacterial and algal control, have been recommended to the Parks' Department and the efficiency of these is checked regularly during the summer months.

Refreshment Houses

Under this heading I refer to all restaurants, public houses and clubs. When these premises are visited under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, and inspection is made at the same time of toilet facilities under section 89 of the Public Health Act 1936, this section relates to provision made for the convenience of public resorting to the premises. Conditions were generally satisfactory. In several instances informal recommendations secured improvements.

Hairdressers and Barbers' Establishments

As required by Section 120(1) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, a register is kept of persons carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber on premises in the Borough. Table 23 gives the numbers of such establishments and indicates the changes during, and the position, at the close of the year.

Table 23. Registration of Hairdressers and Barbers

Particulars of changes	Premises	Persons
No. on Register at 1st January	38	43
No. of entries added during 1965	1	1
No. of entries removed	-	-
No. on Register at 31st December	39	44

Thirty-five premises were inspected during 1965 and a high standard of hygiene was noted, particularly in the Ladies' Establishments.

Section Six

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Water Supply - Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage
Disposal - Refuse Collection and Disposal

Water Supply

On 1st April 1962, the Corporation's Water Undertaking was transferred to the newly formed Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board. Before the take-over it had been the practice of the Chief Public Health Inspector to sample at the several sources and record and classify the results in this Report. Whilst the Corporation no longer supplies water, it is still very much its concern that the water supplied within the Borough shall be satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Sampling within the Borough has therefore continued, and all waters taken for chemical analysis were reported upon as being of good organic quality, whilst 119 waters examined bacteriologically were again highly satisfactory.

All of the 9,026 dwellinghouses in the Borough are connected to the public supply and have water available within each dwelling; there are none supplied by standpipe.

In the matter of supply occasional difficulty in maintaining water pressures has occurred, particularly at times of peak demand. It is anticipated that this will be resolved when a major development scheme prepared by the Water Board is eventually brought into operation.

A typical report on a sample of water is given as follows:

	<u>Parts per million</u>			
Total Solids	...	...	...	280
Chloride	...	...	...	27
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	...	...	...	124
Total Hardness	...	...	...	180
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	56
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	124
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	...	...	Nil
Iron	...	...	...	0.2
Manganese	...	...	...	Nil
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	2.25
Fluorine	...	...	...	Nil
pH	...	...	...	7.4

Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Borough is well sewered, there being only 50 properties not served by public sewer. Twelve properties in the Borough are served by private disposal plants, 38 by cesspools, and the remainder, representing 99% of the total, are connected to public sewerage. Sanitary accommodation of the conservancy type (mainly chemical) exists at only 9 houses and at three other properties.

By 1969 it is expected that the Joint Treatment Works at Brotherton will become operational and the existing local authority operated sewage disposal plant at Knottingley Road will be abandoned by reason of its inadequate capacity and obsolescence.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Apart from the salvaging of paper and metal, all refuse collected by the Corporation is disposed of by controlled tipping. Land suitable for tipping in urban areas is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain without giving rise to nuisance and attracting vermin etc., to any nearby residential properties. Clearly the time is rapidly approaching when other methods of disposal which take into account also the changes in the nature of refuse will perforce have to be considered.

PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

Control of Offensive Trades - Animal Hygiene
- Noise Abatement - Moveable Dwellings - Rag
Flock and Other Filling Materials

Control of Offensive Trades

Offensive trades within the meaning of section 107(1)(i) of the Public Health Act 1936, are carried on at two premises in the Borough, the trades concerned being those of bone boiler, fat extractor, fat melter, fellmonger, glue maker and size maker. A further trade carried on is the concentration and sterilisation of vegetable and animal waste, declared by the Council to be an offensive trade pursuant to their powers under paragraph (ii)(b) of the sub-section.

These trades provide a necessary and valuable public health service. Without the presence of these trades organic waste would be a source of acute embarrassment to the meat trades in particular. Large quantities of waste organic material, some of it already in an advanced state of decay, are brought on to these premises and not only rendered innocuous, but converted into useful commodities.

Steps are taken to control the various processes and to prevent the escape of offensive gases generated in the course of processing. The complex and variable nature of the raw material received renders constant care necessary; the management must be on the alert for the first indication of the escape of offensive effluvium, and thereupon adjust the plant controls accordingly. There is no alternative to this empirical approach. Largely because those responsible become accustomed to the characteristic odour of the trade, the need for this adjustment is sometimes appreciated later than necessary to prevent abnormal odour in the neighbourhood.

During 1965 strict and regular attention was given to the two firms concerned in these trades. Some 85 detailed inspections in addition to many snap inspections were undertaken.

The Corporation have taken all reasonably practicable measures to control offensive trades. The management concerned are anxious not to cause offence, and give considerable attention to improvement of the plant and the processes carried on.

Animal Hygiene

Apart from the nuisance potential of animals kept under unsatisfactory conditions, animal diseases may effect, directly or indirectly the public health. The control of conditions, therefore, under which animals are kept, whether they be animals on sale in pet shops, or food animals awaiting slaughter, or animals on agricultural holdings, is a matter which must concern the Department.

The Pet Animals Act 1951

This Act, provides for the licensing of pet shops by the local authority who, before granting a licence must be satisfied that animals for sale will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness; be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals; that precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of diseases among animals, and that steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency. There are two licensed premises in the Borough, at which conditions are satisfactory.

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

Requirements of the Act are somewhat similar to those contained in the Pet Animals Act. Administration of the Act is made the responsibility of the Local Authority who must be satisfied that animals will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness, be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and visited and exercised at suitable intervals, and ensure that suitable steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

During the year one licence was issued in respect of premises to be used for the boarding of dogs. These premises if carefully controlled can provide a valuable service to the public particularly at holiday times. The danger in the past was that unscrupulous persons having undertaken the care of animals placed in their custody, often grossly neglected them.

Inspections were made from time to time and on each occasion the business was found to be well conducted.

Riding Establishments Act 1964

During the year under review no premises were licensed by the Council although premises at Townville were discovered in January of 1966 to be in use, as a riding establishment. The premises have subsequently been licensed for use and no complaints have been made regarding the manner in which they are conducted.

Noise Abatement

For many years Byelaws relating to noise nuisance have been in force in the Borough, dealing with such matters as sounding musical instruments or singing in the streets to the annoyance of occupants of houses, offices, churches or hospitals. In 1951 the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act of 1960 provided legislation on similar lines and restricted the use of loudspeakers in the streets.

One fairly persistently reported problem was in connection with noise from animals. It is often most difficult for local authority's officers to establish that a nuisance exists in these cases and those persons most closely involved have to resort to private action if they feel sufficiently aggrieved.

Moveable Dwellings

Control of caravans is exercised by way of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act of 1960 and by the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951. In the former case control can be exercised by both Planning and Local Authorities in connection with site licensing. The function of the West Riding Act is to prohibit in certain cases sites frequented by itinerant dwellers. One such area is designated in the Borough and since the date of the making of the Order early in 1965 it has been kept free of caravans.

There appears to be no demand for a permanent caravan site in the Borough and inspections have only involved gypsy type caravans which from time to time frequent the lanes on the Borough boundary often give rise to complaint from nearby residents.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act of 1951 is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles,

and during 1962 Regulations were made under this Act, superseding earlier Regulations, and bringing up-to-date the standards of cleanliness required in relation to the several kinds of filling materials to which the Act applies.

The Act provides for the registration by the local authority of premises upon which filling materials are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and one such factory is registered with the Council. Regular inspections are made including the taking of samples for analysis.

Section Eight

PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control Service - Verminous Infestation

Rodent Control Service

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act of 1949, so far as this Act relates to rodent infestation. Routine measures were taken to ensure, as far as practicable, the freedom from infestation of all premises in their own occupation; owners and occupiers of infested properties were required to face up to their responsibilities under the Act and a Rodent Control Service was maintained by the Corporation, available to householders free of charge and to others at a charge which covers the cost of treatment. The Act places on local authorities a specific duty to inspect their district for infestation, and for much of his time the senior rodent operative was engaged on the discovery of infestations, and the organisation of treatments on 'block control' principles. Table 24 gives statistics relating to the known incidence of infestations and to disinfestation measures taken during 1965.

Table 24. Rodent Control Statistics

	Class of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses*	Agricultural	Business and Industrial	Total
No. of properties	32	8,957	32	1,374	10,395
No. of properties inspected as a result of -					
(a) Notification	5	209	1	59	274
(b) Survey under the Act	26	97	19	154	296
No. of properties inspected and found to be infested by -					
(a) Rats: Major**	3	-	1	1	5
Minor	6	124	6	36	172
(b) Mice: Major**	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	4	46	-	48	98
No. of infested properties treated by local authority	13	170	7	85	275
No. of treatments carried out (including re-treatments)	15	188	7	100	310
No. of 'block control' schemes carried out					9

*Excluding houses combined with businesses.

**Infestation estimated at more than 20 rodents.

Reports in certain parts of the country show that reserves of rats have become immune to the poison 'Warfarin' probably the most common method of control exercised at the present time. 'Warfarin' is an anti-coagulant and has been very successful in reducing the rodent population in recent years. There is no evidence in the Borough that rodents have become immune and its use is continued alongside older established poisoning techniques.

Verminous Infestation

During the year 3 houses were treated for verminous or suspected verminous infestation. None of these were Corporation houses.

Whenever a Corporation house is vacated, or two Corporation tenants exchange houses, the premises are inspected. During 1965, 371 such inspections were made, and no infestations were found.

In several cases people produced insects at the Department for identification, but in none was there any public health problem.

Section Nine

ADMINISTRATION AND RECORDS

Tabular Statement of Inspections made
and Notices served - Establishment

The Public Health Officers Regulations require the recording of inspections made, the preparation of a tabular statement relating to the number and nature of these, to notices served and the results obtained. I have given as accurate a picture as possible in the statement; but when, at one visit, premises are dealt with comprehensively under two or more headings, difficulties in recording can arise.

Table 25. Nature and Number of Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors and assistant staff during 1965.

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Number made</u>
Housing Inspections and Enquiries:	
For unfitness and repair or demolition of unfit houses	662
Improvement with grant aid	133
Area Improvement	364
Following applications under Rent Act for certificates of disrepair	7
Overcrowding and computation of 'permitted numbers'	13
Investigations into multiple occupation	10
Air Pollution Inspections and Enquiries:	
Industrial smoke observations	8
Inspection of boiler plant	13
Investigations of smoke nuisances (section 16)	21
Smoke control area enquiries	52
Food Hygiene Inspection and Enquiries:	
Visits to Abattoir for meat inspection	805
Number of carcasses examined	11,872
Visits to shops for meat inspection	42
Investigations under Milk and Dairies Regulations	15
Sampling of milks and containers (for biological and bacteriological examinations)	15
General Food Inspection and sampling	421
Investigations into sale of food in the open air	50
Visits to food premises -	
Investigations under Food Hygiene Regulations	366
No. of food rooms inspected	915
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	
All enquiries and inspections	610

Nature of InspectionsNumber made

Occupational Hygiene Inspections and Enquiries:

For staff welfare in -

Factories	66
Other works (building sites)	4
Outworkers' premises	2

Visits to Places of Public Resort:

Swimming Baths, water sampling	14
Sanitary Accommodation, inspection under Section 89 of Public Health Act 1936	47
Inspection of Hairdressing Establishments (West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951)	35

Hygiene and the Public Health Services:

Water supply, investigations and sampling	122
Refuse Collection and Disposal, inspections and enquiries	37
Sewerage and Sewage disposal, and general drainage inspections (excluding housing defects)	40

Investigations connected with the prevention and abatement of nuisances, et cetera:

Offensive Trades	85
Moveable dwellings and sites	27
Noise nuisance	78
Other statutory nuisances (excluding housing defects)	19
Infectious diseases and food poisoning enquiries	39
For uncleanness and verminous conditions (including inspections for House Management)	371

Inspections and Enquiries connected with Pest Control:

For rodent infestation (mainly by Rodent Control staff)	1,922
For other pests	116

Pet Animals Act 1951	2
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Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963	9
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Riding Establishments Act 1964	3
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Table 26. Number of Notices served and the Result of Service

Act or Section under which or, in the case of informal notices, preliminary to which, notice was served	No. of Informal Notices					No. of Statutory Notices					
	(a) Outstanding from 1964	(b) Served in 1965	(c) Total of these	(d) Complied with	(e) Outstanding at end of 1965	(f) Outstanding from 1964	(g) Served in 1965	(h) Total of these	(i) Complied with	(j) Work done by L.A.	(k) Outstanding at end of 1965
Public Health Act, 1936: (a) Housing Defects - Section 39, 40, 44 45 and 51 93	7	32	39	38	1	-	4	4	4	-	-
	7	28	35	30	5	-	7	7	7	-	-
	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	8	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Other - Section 39 75 93	-	8	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	8	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Health Act, 1961: Section 17 Housing Act, 1957: Section 9	-	2	2	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
	-	2	2	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949: Section 4 6	3	57	60	58	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	15	15	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	17	153	170	160	10	-	13	13	13	-	-

Staff

The Department were fortunate to retain the services of its technical staff during the year in view of the current national shortage of qualified inspectors. This unbroken service has enabled us to accomplish much, not only in terms of numbers of inspections undertaken, but in the more diverse aspects of environmental public work.

The Council's policy of providing facilities to train its own inspectors has proved to be not only wise but outstandingly successful. At the time of writing the two pupils have been informed of their success at recent examinations held by the Public Health Inspectors' Examination Board. The senior pupil has obtained the Public Health Inspector's Diploma, whilst the second pupil has been successful in obtaining his intermediate qualifications.

In conclusion I should like to acknowledge the loyalty and hard work afforded by members of my staff both clerical and technical, and in particular to the willing response to frequent demands made upon them to undertake duties outside their normal working hours.

I am, Mrs. Pritchard and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,



Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,

Pontefract.

July, 1966.

